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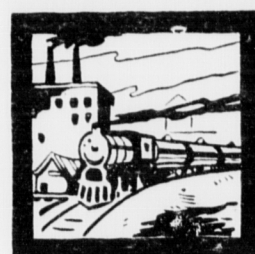
The

An Independent Weekly

Oil

World.

Devoted to Oil Industry



VOL. I. No. 40.

LEXINGTON, KY., SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1918.

Price 10 Cents.

Southwestern Buys Chiles, Clay and Miller's Lee Co. Holdings A Long Range View of the Oil Industry of the United States

What Peace May Accomplish Exports of Oils and Prices The Future Outlook

The oil industry of the United States has prospered since the beginning of the war in Europe and while it seems to be the consensus of opinion among authorities in the oil trade that peace should result in a further development of the industry there are probably many investors who are doubtful as to the prospects for continued prosperity on the part of the oil companies with the return of peace.

A clearer understanding of the peace prospects of the oil industry can be obtained by first analyzing the factors which have affected the industry in recent years prior to and since the beginning of the war in Europe.

The Export Situation.

The export situation naturally assumes a leading place in any consideration of present conditions. Exports of petroleum have shown a considerable growth since the beginning of the war and reached a new high record in the year 1917. Government figures show that exports of all petroleum products for the year ended December 31, 1917, amounted to 2,645,362,268 gallons, compared with 2,607,491,209 gallons in 1916, an increase of only 1.5 per cent. Our petroleum exports for the year ended June 30, 1914, the fiscal year immediately preceding the war, amounted to 2,281,611,065 gallons, and the figures for the corresponding period of the 1917 fiscal year—2,749,438,434 gallons—show a growth of about 20 per cent. over the pre-war figures.

But this expansion of exports since the war does not indicate that the war has benefited the oil trade, as exports had been showing a healthy year-to-year growth previous to the war. While at the end of three years of war our total oil shipments show an increase of 20 per cent, a review of the three years preceding the war shows that 1914 exports were 41 per cent larger than those of 1911. From these figures it is apparent that our oil exports during the war period have not increased to as large an extent as would have been the case in peace times. The value of imports since the beginning of the war have shown more than a normal increase, but the increase in values also reflects such items as increased cost of cases and barrels.

A more careful study of export statistics shows that the character of our foreign shipments has been considerably changed during the war period. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1917, illuminating oil shipments amounted to 835,114,403 gallons, compared with 1,157,283,310 gallons in the year ended June 30, 1914. During the period since the outbreak of the war there has been a falling off in kerosene shipments of 422,168 gallons, or almost 40 per cent.

Table A—Petroleum Exports.
(War Period.)

Year Ended	Quantity (Gals.)	Incr. Pct.	Value.	Incr. Pct.
Dec. 31.				
1916	2,607,491,209	11.9	201,732,563	41.0
1915	2,329,575,617	4.0	142,972,322	21.2
1917	2,645,362,368	1.5	\$263,027,075	25.4
Year Ended				
June 30.				
1912	1,792,665,038	10.9	112,472,100	14.6
1913	1,989,772,713	10.9	137,237,762	22.0
1914	2,281,611,065	14.6	\$152,174,056	10.9

In the 1917 period gasoline exports totaled 425,703,130 gallons, compared with 192,452,267 gallons in 1914, an increase of 120 per cent. It is evident that the foreign demand for gasoline has shown more than a normal development since the beginning of the war, but on the other hand illuminating oil shipments which have always been considered the backbone of the export trade have shown a substantial decline.

This falling off in illuminating oil exports has been principally due to the fact that in peace times Belgium, Holland and Germany furnish one of the biggest markets for American illuminating oil. In the year ended June 30, 1914, the Netherlands took 176,810,812 gallons of kerosene, Belgium received 56,404,169 gallons and 79,471,322 gallons were consigned to Germany. For the 1917 fiscal year we shipped 45,671,563 gallons of kerosene to the Netherlands, while no shipments were made to Belgium or Germany. The scarcity of marine transportation facilities and the high ocean freight rates have also affected kerosene shipments and have seriously interfered with exports of this product to our big markets in the Far East.

While the oil companies have generally shown large earnings since 1915, for a considerable time since the outbreak of the war they were seriously concerned over their increasing supplies of kerosene. This product piled up in tremendous quantities, with the partial cessation of foreign shipments, and at one time it could be purchased from the mid-continent refiners at less than two cents a gallon.

(Continued Next Week)



WILLIAM J. FLESHER.

Mr. Flesher is directing the operations of the Southwestern Petroleum Company in the Kentucky oil fields, which concern has invested about \$300,000 in leaseholds in this State.

This company now owns approximately 10,000 acres in the proven and semi-proven territory in the eastern part of the State. They operate, at this time, ten strings of tools, and will have fifteen more at work during the next sixty days.

Mr. Flesher is a great believer in Kentucky's petroleum resources and has attested his faith by purchasing holdings at apparently amazing high prices. "We'll buy anything in Kentucky that looks good," is the policy of the Southwestern Petroleum Company.

"A Practical Coal Man"

The grim business of getting this country into the war, of equipping and transporting an army of a million and a half of men across the seas, is a slow and staggering task. And it is but a part of our job. The rest is to keep up the vast supply of food and munitions which for the past three years we have been sending to our Allies. Deeply unfortunate was the controversy which arose between the President and members of the Senate as to whether we are coming to grips with this task in an adequate way. The President sharply resented the criticism offered. It provoked him into an angry retort. We feel that the President does not fully understand the nature of the country's unrest. The country is not impatient. But it has a growing conviction that in many instances, including the most critical post of all, the Department of War, the ablest men available are not in charge. Therefore the country fears that the serious mistakes, the delays, and the indecisions will not soon come to an end.

We can lay the knife on the nerve when we cite the strange announcement made on January 25 that Dr. Garfield had appointed as his chief aid **A PRACTICAL COAL MAN**. We print it in large black capitals exactly as it was printed in the Administration's chief New York organ the morning after. Dr. Garfield was himself appointed August 23. Five months to find "A Practical Coal Man" as aid to the college president who, without a day or an hour of experience in the coal industry, is put in autocratic control of the very lifeblood of the nation's industries! It is this sort of thing which set the country on edge. And it was the lack of any reasonable prospect of betterment which was steadily destroying the country's faith. Why should not "A Practical Coal Man" have been appointed six months ago, and not as aid to a doctrinaire college professor, but as chief administrator himself?—Exchange.

LEXINGTON.

The Oil World is preparing an article dealing with Lexington in its relation to Kentucky's rapidly-growing petroleum industry. By far the greater portion of the capital invested in the oil development of this State comes from outside the State—will Lexington and the other trade centers tributary to their respective fields lend their support and hearty co-operation to promote the State's newest, and, already, one of its biggest industries and to safeguard in every proper way the millions of dollars now being invested within the State.

This article will be published in an early issue.

Federal Search for Crude Oil Scarcity of The Fuel Oil Arouses Government

WASHINGTON.—With alarming reports coming to Government officials regarding the very serious shortage in fuel oil and the depletion of the reserve, the petroleum experts in the Government service are looking forward eagerly to promising new fields of production.

There is special interest in the Alabama field because reports show that this has the same encouraging geological construction as the "Big Muddy Dome" in Wyoming, and confidential reports from several prospectors indicate that the oil is flowing freely in a number of new wells.

The danger that some of the largest industries in the country—steel mills, railroads, copper mines and phosphate mines—will have to suspend work because they cannot get fuel oil, is causing considerable anxiety in official circles. Of course, this is partially due to the fact that the Shipping Board has been forced to commandeer all the oil tankers possible to carry petroleum supplies over-seas, but it is also due to the fact that the petroleum reserve is being depleted and there is no big increase in production that can be relied upon to meet the growing shortage.

The testimony of A. C. McLoughlin, representing the fuel oil department of the Southern Pacific railroad, given before the House Committee on Public Lands, considering the general leasing bill, has awakened considerable concern among the Government authorities. Mr. McLoughlin pointed out that the Western coast reserve is practically all gone and that unless the Naval Reserve No. 2 is immediately opened up under conditions that will encourage the largest possible efforts at production there will be great industrial suffering.

Petroleum experts in the Government service have been hearing some very encouraging reports from the Alabama field. These come from several well-known California operators who have acquired large holdings in Alabama. One of the best reports has come in from D. C. Gillett, president of the Pennsylvania Oil Company, Inc., who was in Washington during the last week. Albert N. Landes, vice-president of this corporation, who is a practical oil man with wide experience in the Mexican fields, was also attending conferences in Washington. This company reports that a good supply of oil is being secured from one well and that others are progressing satisfactorily.

The conservation and reluctance to boom the proposition which is manifested by these officers of the oil company have increased the confidence of the Federal officials that they have a very promising property.

All recent reports from the Alabama field are pleasing to the petroleum technologists of the United States Bureau of Mines.

Southwestern Makes Purchase

The Southwestern Oil Company has purchased from Chiles, Clay & Miller about 950 acres on Bald Rock, Cave Fork and Big Sinking Creek, Lee county, for \$40,000 cash and a retaining interest. There is also pending a deal to take over the production and other acreages of Chiles, Clay & Miller by the Southwestern for a sum amounting to possibly \$250,000.

Chiles, Clay & Miller recently brought in one of Kentucky's best wells on this property.

Advertising Appropriations

A bill may be introduced in the Legislature to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of advertising the mineral resources of Kentucky in the metropolitan newspapers throughout the United States. Many members of both houses are in favor of doing something to focus the eyes of the financial world on Kentucky. They believe that every dollar spent now will return to the State tenfold by increasing values in property and taxes, especially when the taxes are paid by persons living outside the State.

There is now being shipped weekly about \$200,000 worth of oil, and outside capital is buying \$300,000 worth of leases, royalties, etc., which means \$2,000,000 monthly. If they can increase this to \$10,000,000 monthly everybody in the State reaps a benefit in some form.

The Hopewell Oil Company's No. 3 on the Shearer tract in Lee county and north of Beattyville is reported at 200 barrels. This well is 500 feet south of No. 1 and reveals a new situation in the formation in that the drill penetrated three distinct pays, which in each instance were topped with Cap rock. The first pay was found at 1,126, the second at 1,155 and the best pay was at 1,174. Of the 75 feet formation, 30 feet is pay and of about ten feet thickness in each instance. The well was shot with 80 quarts, and within a few minutes filled 210 feet in the hole.

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DAILY QUOTATIONS AND MARKET LETTER

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Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.
Crown Oil90 .95	Old Dominion	100.00 125.00	New Hoffman50 .60
Hoffman Oil	1.50 2.00	Federal Oil	3.75 4.00	New Hoffman pfd. ....	.60 .70
McCombs Oil	1.00 1.05	S. Oil of Lee Co.	200.00 250.00	Kenova Oil .....	.25 .30
Oleum Refining	5.00 5.50	Henry Clay .....	.25 1.00	Ky.-Wyoming .....	.50 .55
Pan-American	1.00 1.05	Barnett Oil	1.05 1.10	Republic Oil .....	.75 .75
Caddy Oil	5.00 6.00	Cumb. P. & R.	1.00 1.05	Green River Oil .....	.50 .50
Cherokee Oil .....	.85 .90	Bourbon Oil .....	.65 .65	Comet	1.50 2.75
Penn-Kentucky	5.50 5.75	Monarch V. Pet.	1.25 1.50		

The opening of the Kentucky Oil Exchange in the lobby of the Phoenix Hotel, Lexington, where quotations of Kentucky and other oil stocks, as well as quotations on royalties and leases throughout the State, are posted, has created much interest and the Exchange has many visitors from every part of the State as well as from every State in the Union.

Weather conditions now permitting, leases are equally sought for both speculation and development. In some sections of the State the price of leases has advanced from 25 per cent to 500 per cent within the last few months.

In Lee county, where they are bringing in a great many fine wells, there are few leases left. These are held anywhere from \$10 to \$500 per acre.

In Breathitt county prices of leases have doubled in the past three months. This county is on the map for great activity. Some fifteen wells are to be drilled in the near future.

In Powell and Wolfe counties the production and new wells are proving up to the usual standard, and leases in this portion of the State are hard to get, even at high prices.

In Morgan, Magoffin and Johnson counties leases are changing hands daily, both for speculation and development work. A great deal of new work is contemplated in Morgan county, and Magoffin and Johnson counties will probably be thoroughly explored for the golden liquid this coming summer.

Elliott, Wayne and Knox counties are coming to the front with some fair producers, and much activity is reported in different portions of these counties.

In the stock market the McCombs Oil and Gas, which is selling at \$1.00 par and paying a dividend of 1 per cent monthly, or 12 per cent yearly, is easily the leader.

Wyoming-Kentucky Oil Company, which has valuable acreage in Kentucky, Tennessee, Wyoming and Kansas, is putting out an issue of stock at 50c per share, which looks like a fairly good buy.

The Comet Oil stock, which has been selling around \$1.00 per share, advanced to \$3.00, per share, with none for sale, the company having sold its entire allotment.

The Oleum Refining Company commenced operations this week with a capacity estimated at 1,000 barrels. This stock has a ready sale at \$5.50 per share and will probably go higher.

The Pan-American Oil Company, which is operating in Lee and Wolfe counties, is having no trouble in selling their stock at par, \$1.00.

The Caddy Oil Company, which operates the Jack Wells lease, whose stock is \$1.00 par, is selling freely around \$6.00 per share.

Federal Oil stock has been very active and has gradually risen in price, selling now between \$3.75 and \$4.00 per share. This looks like a fairly good purchase.

A few shares of the Southern Oil Company of Lee County stock has been traded in at from \$250 to \$300 per share. There are only a few shares of this stock on the market, the par value of which is \$25, and it has been selling at from 10 to 15 to 1 for the past six months.

Monarch Vacuum Petroleum Company, who got a big well in Powell county the first of last month, increased the price of their stock from \$1.25 to \$1.50. This is a well-financed company, and we believe this stock will be worth considerable more money in the near future.

The Hoffman Oil Company of Kentucky stock, which they are advertising to sell at \$3.00 per share, par value \$10, is being offered at \$2.00 to \$2.50 per share, with a very narrow market.

The Cumberland Producing and Refining stock for some reason has been weak for the past few weeks. Now that the weather is favorable, so that they can get new production, the stock is liable to take an upward trend.

Barnett Oil and Gas stock has not shown any strength during the past week, but should secure new production in the early future, which would strengthen this stock.

The North Fork Oil and Gas Company has secured 1,187 acres in Morgan and Magoffin counties and 100 acres on Frozen Creek in Breathitt county, and contemplate active drilling operations at once. This stock at 87½c net per share looks like a good purchase.

Rex Oil Company's stock has advanced from \$25 to \$50 per share since the striking of a new well on the Angel lease, Big Sinking creek, Lee county.

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The information contained above, while not guaranteed by us, is obtained from sources we believe to be reliable and accurate.

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CRUDE OIL QUOTATIONS

CRUDE PRICES.

Quoted by the predominating pipe line company in each field. All prices are at the well in barrels of 42 gallons.

Eastern Fields.			
Prices.			
	Jan. 1, 1917	Jan. 1, 1918	
Pennsylvania	\$4.00	\$2.85	\$2.25
Cabell	2.77	2.22	1.78
Wooster, O.	2.48	1.80	1.50
Corning	2.85	2.25	1.75
North Lima	2.18	1.58	1.33
South Lima	2.18	1.58	1.33
Indiana	2.08	1.43	1.18
Princeton	2.22	1.62	1.47
Somerset	2.60	2.05	1.63
Ragland	1.25	.95	.75
Illinois	2.22	1.62	1.47
Plymouth	2.03	1.53	1.33
Canadian Petrolia ..	2.48	1.98	1.73
Mid-Continent.			
Kans.-Okla.	\$2.00	\$1.40	\$1.20
Healdton	1.20	.75	.55
Texas Fields.			
North Texas.			
	Jan. 1, 1917	Jan. 1, 1918	
Electra	\$2.00	\$1.47	\$1.20
Henrietta	2.00	1.40	1.20
Gulf Coast.			
Corsicana light ..	2.00	1.40	1.20
Corsicana crude ..	1.05	.75	.60
Strawn	2.00	1.40	1.05
Moran	2.00	1.40	1.05
Louisiana Fields			
Spindletop	1.05	.90	.50-.35
Goose Creek	1.00	...	...
Sour Lake	1.00	.90	.50-.60
Humble	1.00	.90	.50-.60
Batson	1.00	.90	.50
Saratoga	1.00	.90	.50
Dayton	1.00	.80	.45
Wyoming.			
Elk Basin	\$1.70
Grass Creek	1.70
Greybull	1.70

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Oil Producers

F. E. COURSON
1002 Fayette Bk. Bldg., Lexington, Ky.
Producer of Petroleum

FOSTER, BAHAN & BARKER
Lexington, Ky.
Oil Producers

CLARENCE MILLER
Irvine, Ky.
Independent Oil Operator

Hopewell Petroleum Co.
520 Paul Jones Bldg., Louisville, Ky.
Oil Producers

J. H. McCLURKIN,
Brown-Proctoria Hotel, Winchester, Ky.
Oil Operator,

PAN-AMERICAN OIL CO.
134 E. 4th St., Cincinnati, Ohio
Oil Producers

IRVINE FIELD OIL CO.
Winchester, Ky.
Producers

PILOT KNOB OIL CO.
Winchester, Ky.
Oil Producers

FEDERAL OIL CO.
Irvine, Ky.
Oil Producers

W. P. WILLIAMS OIL CORP.
Irvine, Ky.
Oil Producers

MAMMOTH OIL CORP.
Irvine, Ky.
Oil Producers

HENRY CLAY OIL CO.
Irvine, Ky.
Oil Producers

TORRENT OIL CO.
Winchester, Ky.
Oil Producers

OLD DOMINION OIL CO.
Louisville, Ky.
Oil Producers

KY. PET. PROD. CO.
Winchester, Ky.
Oil Producers

UTILITY OIL & GAS CO.
Incorporated
McClelland Building
LEXINGTON, KY.

N. E. CANFIELD
Fayette Bank Bldg., Lexington, Ky.
Oil and Gas Producer

CORBITT AND JEWELL
Winchester, Ky.
Contractors and Leases

J. H. DUGAN
Winchester, Ky.
Independent Operator

PYRAMID OIL CO.
Winchester, Ky.
Producers

FOR INVESTORS

C. New Lothrop, Mich.: Reo Truck and Motor is on a 10 per cent basis, with extras.

M. Easton, Pa.: Automobile common stocks just now are doubtful and K. C. S. common does not look among the best.

L. Weehawken, N. J.: Because of the corporation's increasing earnings, Pierce Oil is a well-regarded long-pull speculation.

C. New York City: Your investments might be further diversified by buying Anglo-French 5's, or American Foreign Securities 5's.

W. Muncie, Ind.: I would not sell Walash preferred A at a loss. Better wait and see the outcome of the new railroad situation.

M. Philadelphia: The Dan Patch Electric Line appears to be no longer on the map. I always advised against purchase of its securities. I know of no market.

D. South Edmeston, N. Y.: U. S. Steel preferred is a sterling stock. U. S. Rubber first preferred, paying 8 per cent, is desirable. Second preferred pays 6 per cent, the common nothing.

M. Lambertville, N. J.: Pennsylvania Railroad stock has been regarded as one of the best, and if Government control of the railroads is satisfactory, the stock should continue a good purchase.

E. Kerriston, Wash.: The 7 per cent improvement bonds of many California towns are well regarded, but the investor should be sure to pick out a prosperous community, and buy only of responsible firms.

H. Big Rapids, Mich.: Experienced and successful investors seldom risk their money in new and untried companies. I would rather buy preferred stocks, dealt in on the exchanges, of leading dividend-paying companies.

H. Schenectady, N. Y.: It is difficult to pass on the merits of securities not listed, or actively traded in. Speculators are averse to them because they do not have a ready market in case one wishes to sell in an emergency.

W. Oradell, N. J.: If there is any cheap gasoline-producing process, such as that claimed by National Gasoline Corporation, workable on a commercial basis, the well-established oil companies would make every effort to secure it.

W. Pittsburg, Pa.: Peace would give the market a stimulus, but for how long would depend upon trade conditions. Wages would not be readjusted until business depression was felt. A crop failure would be disastrous to the market.

J. Des Moines, Iowa: Iowa farm mortgage bonds ought to be good securities, if bought of reliable dealers. The better class of farm mortgage bonds have been bought in large amounts by life insurance companies. The best Iowa municipal bonds, doubtless, are all right.

S. Chester, Pa.: The 3 1/2 per cent Liberty Bonds are tax-exempt, the 4's are not. The 4's are preferable for those whose incomes are small. The two classes of 4's are the conversion 4's given in exchange for 3 1/2's and maturing the same year as 3 1/2's, 1947; and the regular 4's, which mature in 1942. The conversion 4's sell a little higher than the others.

C. Moody, N. Y.: The Stewart Mining Co. is now engaged in development work, not making enough profit to pay dividends. We do not advise purchase of cheap curb stocks. S. O. of Cal. is safe, but only a fair purchase so far as present yield is concerned. Smith Motor Truck Corporation is now in the hands of the creditors' committee. The common is a fair long-pull speculation.

W. Youngstown, Ohio: The persistent talk against the manufacture of non-essentials during the war has done harm to motor and other securities. How much further this will go, no one can predict. It is well to diversify your investments. C. F. & L. paying 3 per cent, looks like one of the promising cheap steel stocks, around 35. Saxon common is now in the long-pull speculation class.

E. Martins Ferry, Ohio: A widow with \$20,000 should buy safe bonds and preferred stocks. Among high-grade bonds are Adichson gen. 4's, B. & O. Gold 4's; C. B. & Q. joint 4's; Ill. Central, Chicago, St. Louis, and N. O. joint 5's A; St. Paul gen. 4's; New York City 4 1/2's; West Shore 4's; U. P. first 4's. Among first-class preferred stocks are Bethlehem Steel 8 per cent preferred, American Smelting and Ref. pfd.; American Woolen pfd.; Adichson pfd.; U. P. pfd., and Corn Products pfd.

G. Chicago: It is a good plan to use your \$20,000 in diversified investments. While Midvale Steel and Republic I. & S. are business men's investments, Republic I. & S. pfd. would be better. C. R. I. & P. 7 per cent preferred is now dividend paying and attractive. Pullman looks like a good purchase. American Locomotive common is a dividend payer, but Baldwin Locomotive common is not, and is therefore less desirable. Wilson and Company common has not begun to make returns and the preferred is more to be desired. Central Leather common does pay dividends, but the preferred is safer.

OIL NOTES

At Olympia, Wash., the Puget Sound Natural Gas and Refining Company has been incorporated.

Reports state that a gas well, six miles east of Delta, Col., has a capacity of 15,000,000 cubic feet daily.

At Wichita Falls, Texas, the Sunshine Hill Oil Company has made plans for the construction of a \$200,000 oil refinery.

In a recent statement, H. F. Sinclair declares that transportation of oil is now a more serious problem than the production of the fluid.

William Clark is to have the directing of the Texas Company's lately organized scout department, according to the *Muskogee Phoenix*.

Reports of a 1,000-barrel oil strike in the Lusk district, Wyoming, by the Ohio Oil Company, have been denied by officials of that concern.

A. M. Baker has a contract to drill ten wells on a lease near Mound Valley, Kan. Operations thereabouts are to be lively during the coming months.

Ohio Oil Company has declared an extra dividend of \$4.75 in addition to the usual quarterly disbursement, which is the same as was paid last quarter.

Leasers in Eastland county, Texas, some time ago paid a bonus of 25 cents a year per acre. Then the price lifted to 50 cents, to \$1 and upward to \$10.

Near Sulphur, Okla., 13,000 acres of land have been leased by oil prospectors who propose to hit a pay streak if one should happen to be discoverable in that section.

During the recent floods in the Kanawha river in West Virginia a 16-inch gas main was washed out and the gas supply of a number of towns was shut off temporarily.

Covina, Cal., has been assured by L. M. Edwards, representative of the Southern Counties Gas Company, that no increase in rates for gas is to be made by that corporation.

Recent reactions in oil-stock quotations were due to the fear that the Government would attempt a price-fixing method of oil control, according to trade advices from the East.

E. W. Shaw, a Federal geologist and gas expert, has been studying territory in the vicinity of New Orleans in order to make a report to the city as to the gas possibilities of the region.

With the completion of Gulf Pipe Line Company's new six-inch line from Cushing, Okla., to El Dorado, the oil fields of that part of Kansas have now six trunk lines to carry off the oil south and east.

Tulsa officials of the Sinclair Oil Corporation state that the laying of the company's line from the Mid-Continent fields to Whiting, Ind., has been practically completed. Oil runs will soon be made.

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Organized in the Interest of All Oil and Gas Operators in Kentucky

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EDITORIAL

ADVERTISE KENTUCKY'S RESOURCES

One of the richest of all the States, in natural resources, is Kentucky. Practically half of the State is a virgin coal field, and contains, not the lignite and low-grade varieties of coal important only to future generations, but rather the highest grade of bituminous coal to be found on the continent, a coal of such quality that its immediate and pressing need is daily emphasized by the fancy prices that the big industries of the country are offering for it.

Of Kentucky's one hundred and twenty-five counties, more than fifty-three are believed to be underlain with oil or gas, which has already been partially developed in some thirty counties, and within the past three years the State's production of petroleum has increased from less than ten thousand to approximately eighty thousand barrels per week, or at the rate of about 800 per cent increase during this period.

While Kentucky leads all the states in production of tobacco, hemp and thoroughbred horses and its agricultural development compares favorably with many of our leading agricultural states, its vast resources are little known and appreciated either at home or outside. The development of these resources requires capital, and it must be admitted that there is infinitely more capital outside the State than there is in it, and unless and until we appeal to the ready and willing capital in the old developed communities of other states, Kentucky will lose and continue to lose just so much profitable development that should be her's.

How then shall we bring this all necessary capital to the development of Kentucky? Other states have solved the problem—they have advertised. Let's advertise Kentucky; let's go after the capitalists, both large and small, everywhere, who are willing to invest their money in the exploitation of any one of the mineral resources of Kentucky. But it's a big job and let's go about it in a big way—get the whole State behind it, the Governor, the Legislature, the business organizations and boards of trade and the people. All will help, but the one big important thing right now is for the Legislature, now in session, to take immediate action; create an official organization to advertise Kentucky, give it breadth and power and ample funds to start the job right.

The sphere of a trade journal is limited; it is presumed to stick to its trade, but we believe the big men of Kentucky will not resent, but that they will respond to this appeal, for it is borne of a deep interest in the development of Kentucky's great natural wealth, and in the belief that the time is right and opportune for the State to officially and energetically advertise the extraordinary investment opportunities that exist in Kentucky.

Considerable activity is also noted in Western Kentucky, in Warren and Allen counties. It is reported that Banker Potter and Carden Green disposed of several blocks of leases, near production in Allen county, recently at \$50 an acre, which, if true, is doubtless the highest paid for undeveloped Allen county acreage. The well on the Johnson farm, drilled recently by Huntsman and others, is reported showing for 20 barrels. Estimates on the well, when it was first drilled in, placed it at 500 barrels, but these were exaggerated. Much gas was encountered in the well, which forced the oil to flow over the casing. Christian and others' well on the Moore farm, in the Gainesville pool, proved a freak. Several weeks ago, while the well was drilling, the rig was damaged by fire. After repairs were made drilling was resumed, and at a depth of 80 feet, a thick gas sand was encountered and the well flowed oil. Such a formation of sand as was encountered generally contains no oil whatever, and the theory is advanced that the oil was forced out from the gas sand after it had leaked through the tubing of another producer in the same vicinity. The Sycamore Oil Company's No. 4 on the E. L. Dalton farm, south of Scottsville, is reported showing for 25 barrels. The Ohio Cities Gas Company got a ten-barrel producer at No. 6, W. A. Dalton farm.

Scattering operations in Lee county are also growing. The Carter Oil Company is drilling No. 2, Thomas Buchart. The Atlantic Producing and Refining Company have spudded in at 2 Jeff Kilburn in southeastern Lee, near the Lee-Breathitt line. No. 1 on this farm is showing for about 15 barrels. The Southern Oil Company, of Lee county, is drilling No. 1 on the Marion Shoemaker farm, and No. 2, Doc Williams, in the Sign Board district. Mullen and Maloney are down 250 feet on the T. W. Booth farm. Roberts, Mann and other Lexington parties are drilling on the Moss St. John farm, and will probably be in next week. George Collins, Frank Hudson and others have let contracts for the drilling of three wells in Lee, on the Moss St. John farm.

KENTUCKY NEWS

In Lincoln county the Henry Clay Oil Company are drilling on the Forester Reed farm.

White Bros.' No. 50 Ashley is a 50-barrel pumper. Their No. 3, Spencer heirs, in Wolfe county is due.

Casey, Taylor and Green counties are all in the oil belt, and good reports should be heard from them soon.

The Cumberland Pipe Line Company are planning to lay a line into Lincoln county, according to a report.

The Quaker Oil Company are due first of the week at their maiden operation on the George Booth farm in Lee county.

The Cumberland Petroleum Company's No. 2, Brownlow Smith, in the nearby territory, is reported at 25 to 40 barrels.

Work on the plant of the Neha Refining Company, at Campton Junction, Powell county, is now under way, and will be rushed through before summer.

In an extended area, the Sun Oil Company have a fair size producer at their No. 1 Alex Smith, located on Betty's fork of Big Sinking creek and near Rodical.

Standard Oil interests are reported to have unloaded a string of tools at Van Cleve in Breathitt county, and they are said to have made a location in Frozen Creek.

In Lee county the Southwestern Petroleum Company are drilling an offset well on the Eureka lease, to the good producer they recently brought in in Sore Heel hollow.

The Ken-See Mineral Company has been incorporated at Winchester. Fielding H. Yost, E. A. Yost and J. Smith Hays, Jr., are the incorporators. The capital stock is placed at \$25,000.

In Morgan county, Mullen & Mullen have three strings of tools running on the Little tract, near Mize. Three gas wells, with a daily capacity of over 3,000,000 feet, have already been drilled in on this tract.

In Lawrence county, Mullen and White have pulled the casing from the well on the O'Brien farm, and will abandon it at 1,628 feet. Another location has been made in the same county, on a lease near Busseyville.

In Morgan county, the Murphy Fork Oil and Gas Company are drilling at a depth of 200 feet, on Murphy Fork. W. R. Foreman is the contractor. The Champion Oil and Gas Company are at work on a well on the Clay Murphy farm.

At Torrent, in Wolfe county, the Carter Oil Company's No. 4, Sullivan and McLin, is said to be good for eight barrels. White & Huff, on the waters of Sinking creek, will make 15 barrels. The Monarch Vacuum Oil Company's No. 1, Robert Angell, on the waters of Sinking creek, is reported at 40 barrels.

From the Wagersville district in Estill county, the Crown Oil Company's No. 1 on the Charles Cox is reported dry, and the Lexington Oil Corporation have a ten-barrel producer at their No. 3, J. B. Kelly. In the Fitchburg district the Sun Oil Company's No. 12 and 13, James Arthur, are reported at three and forty barrels, respectively. The latter flowed that amount the first 24 hours.

The Oleum Refining Company last week made its first test run to its recently constructed plant at pryse, Estill county. The Oleum is the first refinery to take production direct from the Irvine field, and has contracts for ample production. The daily capacity of the plant is 1,000 barrels. Gasoline, naphtha and by-products will be shipped from the plant, which is adjacent to both the Kentucky river and the Louisville & Nashville railroad.

It is understood that a New York syndicate, in which T. C. Fuller, of Lexington, is interested will drill several wells in Leslie, Clay and Knox counties, where some 125,000 acres of lumber land was recently purchased, in an effort to determine whether or not oil in commercial quantities can be produced on the land. Carl K. Dresser, independent operator, and White Brothers, both of Lexington, also hold acreage in these counties, and will probably test their holdings as soon as weather conditions permit the moving of a rig over the rough roads.

Lincoln county has twenty oil wells that have a production of from five to thirty barrels. These wells are owned by the Daniel Boone Oil Company, the Belvedere Oil Company and Leonard & Co. In addition to the companies mentioned, such well-known companies as White Bros., the Fisher Oil Company, the Indian Refining Company and the Wood Oil Company have extensive holdings in that county. They will all start on a diligent drilling campaign immediately; and as all of these companies are headed by very practical and successful oil men, great things are expected from this field.

The Mason & Dixon Oil Company, of Covington, Ky., Kentucky producers, have absorbed the Evans Oil Syndicate, through a deal negotiated with the Evans Oil Works, in Cincinnati. The newly acquired holdings of the Mason & Dixon Oil Company include three leases in Wolfe county and one in Estill.

Interest is shown in the well of the Meadow Creek Oil and Gas Company, on eMadow creek in Owsley county, east of Boonesville. A slight showing of oil was obtained at about forty feet in the sand. C. E. Townsend, manager of the company, said that the sand showed evidence of being at least 100 feet thick. It is located on the Rose farm, about 500 feet from No. 1, which was abandoned after a fruitless job, at about 1,200 feet.

Oil runs for the week ending February 23 show a slight decrease over the previous week, the total being 72,309 barrels, as compared with 75,653.54 barrels, run from the same districts during the preceding seven days:

Company:		Company:	
Busseyville	795.90	Campton	558.14
Fallsburg	767.53	Walkersville	1,419.26
Cooper	1,187.84	Ragland	296.41
Denney	901.33	Parmleyville	793.54
Steubenville	1,251.76	Pilot	11,157.89
Cannel City	189.78	Zachariah	3,720.83
Fitchburg	19,208.95	Stillwater	1,688.56
Ravenna	8,266.48		595.59
Ravenna	6,060.85		
Ravenna	13,448.57	Total	72,309.52

COMPLETIONS.

The following are the completions for the week ending February 23, as reported by the Cumberland Pipe Line Company, production estimated:

Fitchburg, Estill County.—Sun Oil Company, No. 12, James Arthur, 3 barrels; Sun Oil Company, No. 13, James Arthur, 40 barrels.

Wagersville, Estill County.—Crown Oil Company, No. 1, Charles Cox, dry; Lexington Oil Corporation, No. 3, J. B. Kelly, 10 barrels.

Pilot, Powell County.—White Brothers, No. 46, John M. Ashley, dry; D. N. Baker and others, No. 4, Jacob Townsend, 20 barrels; Petroleum Exploration Company, No. 102, Miller-Prewitt-Goff, 10 barrels; Federal Oil Company, No. 12, David Patrick, 10 barrels.

Zachariah, Lee County.—Carter Oil Company, No. 4, Sullivan & McLin, 8 barrels; White Brothers & Huff, No. 4, W. M. Hobbs (Wolfe county), 15 barrels; Monarch Vacuum Petroleum Company, No. 1, Robert Angel, 50 barrels.

Cannel City, Morgan County.—Iron City Oil & Gas Company's well, reported in the completions for the week ending February 16, should have read No. 1, J. O. Keith, instead of No. 1, Riley Benton.

HOTEL ARRIVALS

C. H. Back, Whitesburg, Ky.

C. E. Beattie, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Eugene Lynche, Bristol, Va.

J. W. Greene, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

Fred Ramsey, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

C. H. Herrmann, Cincinnati, Ohio.

W. A. Jewell, Winchester, Ky.

E. B. Collard, New York.

H. Freund, Chicago, Ill.

J. T. Carnaday, Knoxville, Tenn.

J. N. Pell, Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. Moore, New York.

A. W. Holtz, Louisville, Ky.

Sidney Glick, Cleveland, Ohio.

James Miller, Henderson, N. C.

A. J. Redway, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A. S. B. Little, Springfield, Ohio.

H. L. Levinson, Chicago, Ill.

W. T. Green, Cincinnati, Ohio.

William Wells, Tarrent, Ky.

Ben W. Steele, Atlanta, Ga.

H. J. Schwartz, Columbus, Ohio.

C. R. Davis, Atlanta, Ga.

D. Marshall, Cleveland, Ohio.

R. B. Elkins, Logan West, Ky.

Homer Brayton, Huntington, W. Va.

J. E. Demeway, Orrville, Ala.

H. W. Robertson, Henderson, Ky.

R. W. Davis, Nashville, Tenn.

J. P. Young, Louisville, Ky.

E. V. Fowler, Pittsburgh, Pa.

W. E. Dyas, New York.

J. V. Cotta, Crawfordsville, Ind.

H. F. Bryant, Charleston, W. Va.

C. E. Mahan, Osborn, Ohio.

C. V. Pruax, Sycamore, Ohio.

E. S. Lawton, Cincinnati, Ohio.

H. Dickinson, Danville, Va.

J. C. Williamson, Chicago.

William J. Miller, Chicago.

J. E. Laib, Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. S. Brinker, Kenova, W. Va.

E. C. Ward, Cleveland, Ohio.

W. W. Griffin, Carson City, Nev.

E. C. Towles, Louisville.

T. H. Sutherland, Chicago.

O. K. Henry, Grassy Creek, Ky.

D. M. Rhoades, Louisville, Ky.

J. Harper, Natchez, Miss.

Newton Bishop, Cynthia, Ky.

C. R. Walker, Pineville, Ky.

R. J. Evans, Chicago.

A. M. Hawkins, Chicago.

W. I. Baxter, New York.

C. A. Case, Cleveland, Ohio.

W. J. Pinford, Chicago, Ill.

W. B. Beecher, Pittsburgh.

George W. McNabb, Slade, Ky.

H. B. Wood, Irvine, Ky.

J. R. Edmonds, Evansville, Ind.

N. L. Bulkeley, Columbus, Ohio.

J. H. Felker, Monroe, Ga.

C. C. Nagle, Baltimore, Md.

George W. Ryan, Atlanta, Ga.

S. R. Collier, West Liberty, Ky.

W. R. Swan, Columbus, Ohio.

A. T. Redwine, Sandy Hook.

A. G. Marcus, Casper, Wyo.

James C. Murray, Chicago.

R. P. Burns, Peoria, Ill.

B. C. Kelly, Memphis, Tenn.

W. E. Van Dusen, Racine, Wis.

A. S. Adair, Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. H. Brownson, Huntington, W. Va.

J. J. Hickey, Richmond, Va.

F. J. Craig, Winchester, Ky.

A. B. Gill, Chattanooga, Tenn.

A. S. Terry, Findlay, Ohio.

Edam Davis, Barboursville, Ky.

H. B. Harris, Louisville.

W. H. Passwater, Tulsa, Okla.

H. L. Morrison, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A. A. Drew, Newark, N. J.

William Winton, Newark, N. J.

M. L. Marcum, Louisa, Ky.

W. F. Martin, Grenada, Miss.

F. C. King, Richester, N. Y.

M. C. Kirk, Paintsville, Ky.

Max Straus, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A. W. Benson, Independence, Kan.

J. E. Wilkerson, Hamlin, W. Va.

Norton Ball, Pittsburgh, Pa.

J. H. Williams, Somerset, Ky.

George S. Phillips, Chicago.

David Fox, Huntington, W. Va.

J. E. Childers, Compton, Ky.

O. P. Grichy, Cincinnati, Ohio.

M. C. James, Valley City, N. D.

W. E. Stout, Logan, Ohio.

J. E. Bahan, Winchester, Ky.

T. C. Ramey, Tulsa, Okla.

G. H. Dimick, Huntington, W. Va.

W. L. Kraft, Chicago.

John Letham, Lake Geneva, Wis.

H. E. Spielman, Huntington, W. Va.

W. H. Little, Marietta, Ohio.

A. H. Wright, Madison, Wis.

N. B. Canahrey, Columbus, Ohio.

J. J. Hall, Atlanta, Ga.

W. S. Shell, Detroit, Mich.

George P. Shirley, Providence, R. I.

J. E. Miller, Huntington, W. Va.

S. Pfister, Erie, Pa.

A. U. Lafudes, Mobile.

J. Lawton, Atlanta, Ga.

D. C. Foster, Quicksand, Ky.

Kelly Kash, Irvine, Ky.

E. M. Nowell, Cincinnati, Ohio.

L. N. Hollingsworth, Tulsa, Okla.

H. G. Crowther, Clay City, Ky.

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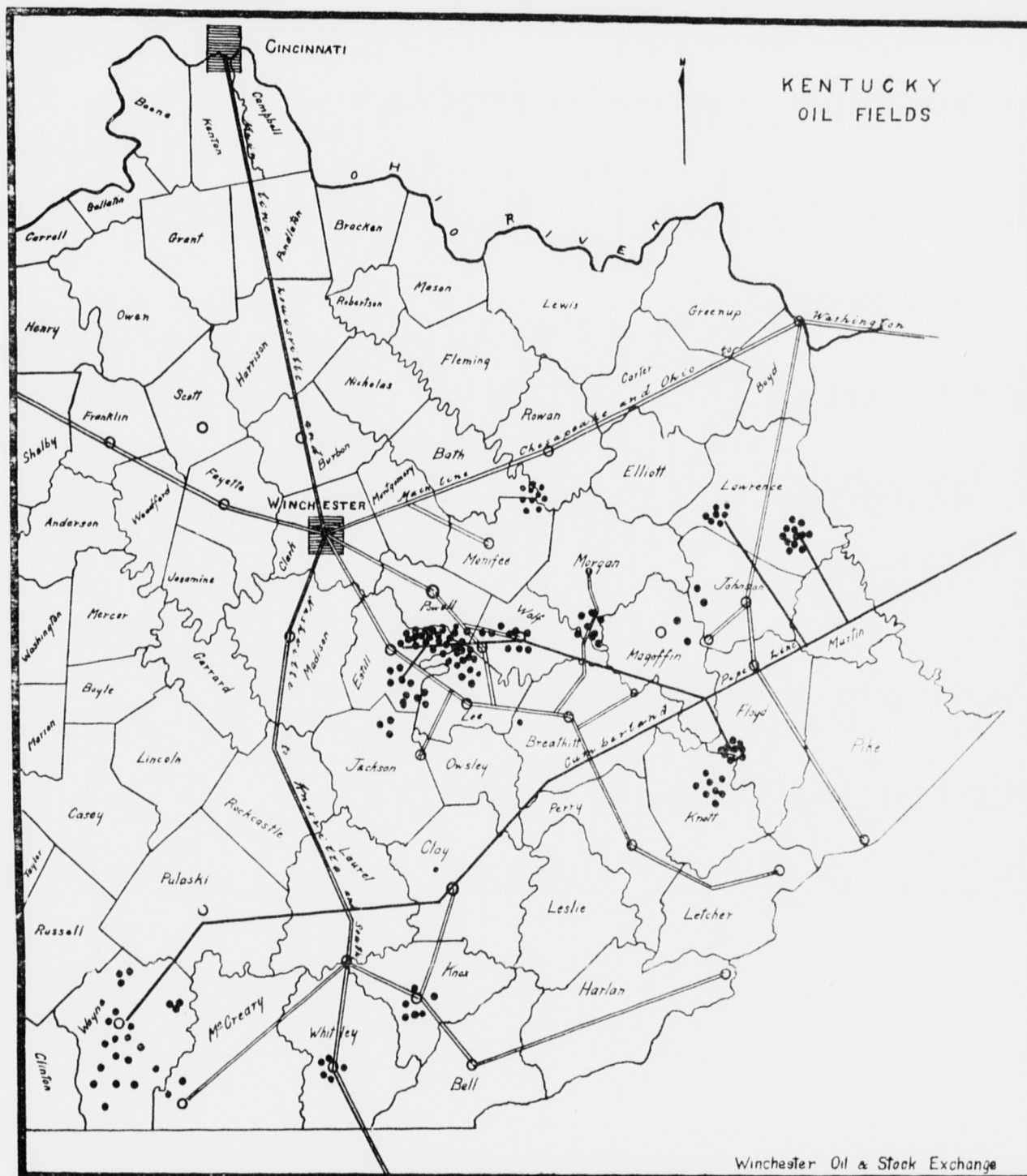
See For Yourself

On the main line of the C. & O. and the L. & N. Railroads, also terminus of the L. & E. Division into Wolf County. Thirty-eight passenger trains every day from and to all parts of the country. You have to come here to get to the fields, why not make it your headquarters?

Our hotels and other accommodations are ample.

Our banks have always rendered assistance to the Oil interests and are at your service insofar as rules of sound banking will permit.

The big interests of the Oil Industry know the value of being in close touch with the operations they are carrying on. If you think a moment you will see the advantage of being here where these big interests are setting the pace of the Kentucky Oil Market.



Below We Have Our Representation in All Branches of the Industry

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SECURITY PROD. & REF. CO.
McEldowney Bldg.

McCOMBS OIL CO.
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KENTUCKY NEWS

It is understood a company known as the Bankers' Oil Company will be incorporated shortly for the purpose of drilling.

The Atlantic Oil Producing Company's well at No. 1, Shoemaker, near Fincastle, in Lee, has been declared a dry hole and plugged up.

They drilled 1,200 feet here, with a good show of sand and oil. The well was shot and proved a non-producer. The same company will probably drill in another locality on the same lease. They have moved into Rockcastle, for their test at Owens Norton No. 1. At Athol in Breathitt and Heidleburg, in Lee, they have spudded in on their leases.

The W. L. Wible well at Caney, Morgan county, drilled in recently by the Iron City Oil Company, near the old Cannel oil field, was shot Thursday and is a good well.

The Kentucky Petroleum Company's well near Monica, in Lee, on the Charles Hieronymus, struck 105 feet of sand, some gas, but no oil. They went 1,210 feet at this location.

The Meadow Creek Oil Company expect to strike sand today at their first well on the big tract owned by them in Owsley county. They have 3,500 acres on the Rose farm just across the line from production in Lee. They lost their tools at their first location and moved the rig twenty-five feet, and have drilled in the second test since the middle of January.

A new well is reported in on Ross Creek in Estill. It is owned by George Williams and others, and is No. 1 on the lease. They went 605 feet and when two feet in the sand the oil rose 500 feet. The same parties have located their No. 2 on the same lease. It is one the L. E. Roberts farm.

In Lee county, Mullen & Maloney are down 160 feet at their No. 1 Tom Booth. The Laurel Oil and Gas Company have let a contract for their No. 1 on the Moss St. John, and L. V. Mullen and others are preparing to drill at No. 1 Lena Sloane and No. 1 Fred Sloane. No. 3 Hopewell is in the sand.

In the same county Foster & Babin are expecting their No. 1 on the John Williams farm.

In Wolfe county, on the Chaldrey farm, the Willis Oil Company is drilling on a direct line with production.

Mullen & Mullen are drilling for another gas well at their No. 4 near Maize, in Wolfe county.

In Elliott county the Rice Oil Company went 850 feet on the Vess Peters No. 1 and are shut down in the sand.

J. D. Dugan, Atkinson, of Stanton, and Mr. Braden, of West Virginia, have let a contract to drill four wells on the lease belonging to Mr. Dugan at Stanton.

The Carter Oil Company are shooting their well No. 4 on the R. J. McLin in Lee county. No report has come in as yet as to the result.

A well has been reported in by Corbett & Jewell on the Margaret Wise lease in Estill. This is No. 1 land, and oil was struck at 660 feet.

The same parties are drilling on the John Wise in Powell.

In the Fitchburg district of Estill the Sun Oil Company have struck their No. 13 on the James Arthur. This will probably make 20 barrels.

The Irvine Field Oil Company are drilling on the B. N. Witt, and the Kentucky Producers moving in on the Lowry heirs in the same county. These are both the first wells located on these leases.

Messrs. A. S. Warren and S. Thompson have returned from Montpelier, Ind., where they accompanied the body of W. M. Page to its final resting place.

STRUCK AT THE PETERS FARM IN ELLIOTT.

That there is something else in the oil game besides exchanging leases and boring a well, then going nutty when you strike a little oil, is evidenced by some of the interesting stories that come in from the field.

Mr. William Forman told a story a few days ago and vouches for it being a real, true one that puts a little imagination into the game. It is in connection with the pseudonym of the Witches Fork Oil Company now operating in Wolfe county, near Heilachewa. The story runs thus:

About a year ago a mountain man who is the proprietor of a country store purchased furs from all his neighbors and set out accompanied by his wife for St. Louis, where he carried his furs, valued at about \$11,000, to a trader. The trader refused him his price. In the meantime his wife, who was located at a hotel, met up with a clairvoyant, who told her what her husband's business in the city was and that he was worried over the refusal of the furrier to give him his price. She then went on to say: "Tell your husband not to worry, when he goes back in the morning to take his furs out of the warehouse, the dealer will give him his price."

This subsequently happened and the mountain man went to the fortune-teller to thank her for foretelling his good luck. While talking to her she offered to tell him of an event in the future which would be of benefit to him. "Inside of a year," she said, "a half-sister with whom you are at present unfriendly, will die and you will buy from her sons some land she now owns in which you have a half interest. If you drill by ——— Fork you will strike oil."

The events prophesied by the soothsayer came true during the last year and the man became possessor of the land as foretold. Later the Witches Fork Oil Company was organized and it is drilling at present at the place designated by the clairvoyant, and the company is named after her.

THE ROUND TABLE.

An adjunct, known as the Round-Table, has been added to the Kentucky Oil Men's Association, with a purpose of bringing members of the fraternity into closer personal relations, and maintaining a spirit of co-operation among them. Each meeting will be in the form of a luncheon, and will be held Saturday, during the noon hour, each week, at the Phoenix Hotel, at Lexington, Ky.

The first luncheon was held last Saturday and arrangements for future success of the project were made. The following rules for the Round-Table were passed:

"Smile before you sit down.

"Each member pays for his own lunch. If you haven't 50 cents, borrow it.

"No tip to the waiter to exceed 10 cents.

"If you expect to be out of town, drop your name in the box at the hat rack. Please state how long you expect to be gone. This will entitle another member to have a guest at your place.

"Each member should give notice to the head waiter, of a guest. This will avoid embarrassment to your guest.

"If you know anything that might help the other fellow in the oil business, speak up. That's what the Round-Table is for.

"Don't knock."

The OIL WORLD has received a letter from Everett C. Arnold, president of the James O. Hamilton Oil and Gas Company, which concern is operating in Allen county, saying that the previous reports of the wells on their property have been underrated. His statement follows:

"Seeing for several weeks the sayings in regard to the well No. 1, and well No. 2 on the J. R. Johnson farms, nine miles north of Scottsville, Ky., in Allen county, I, being president of the company, thought I would give you the true situation of this company. Well No. 1 flows 100 barrels per day and well No. 2, under an eight-hour test, flowed twenty-five barrels per hour, showing a gain every hour. That being all the tankage we had, we were compelled to shut the well in. Neither of these two wells were drilled exceeding one foot in the sand, owing to the flow of gas and oil, with a small drilling machine, not having a boiler to set back far enough to get steam made, it is impossible to drill any deeper. This well, drilled in the sand properly, is a showing for from one thousand to two thousand barrels per day."

HEADQUARTERS FOR OIL MEN

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AN OIL MAN

The oil runs and completions from the Kentucky field, as reported by the Cumberland Pipe Line Company, for the week ending February 16, are as follows:

District 1, Busseyville	556.28	District 10, Wagersville	1,748.29
District 1-A, Fallsburg	1,213.23	District 11, Beaver Creek	524.71
District 2, Cooper	482.26	District 12, Ragland	807.29
District 3, Denny	1,704.14	District 13, Parmieville	81.37
District 5, Steubenville	729.82	District 14, Pilot	13,696.45
District 6, Cannel City	422.80	District 15, Pilot	6,395.39
District 7, Fitchburg	18,931.12	District 16, Zachariah	954.34
District 8, Ravenna	8,071.18	District 9, Stillwater	208.78
District 8-A, Ravenna	5,691.05		
District 8-B, Ravenna	12,204.84	Total	75,653.54
District 9, Campton	140.20		

COMPLETIONS.

District 5, Steubenville, Wayne county, Ky.; Wood Oil Co. No. 11, T. C. Morrow, 10.

District 6, Cannel City, Morgan county, Ky.; Iron City O. & G. Co. No. 1, Riley Benton, 25.

District 8, Ravenna, Estill county, Ky.; W. S. Raydure No. 25, Williams et al., 30.

District 8-A, Ravenna, Estill county, Ky.; Security Producing and Refining Co. No. 14, Tom Henderson, 10 barrels.

District 9, Campton, Wolfe county, Ky.; McMann O. & G. Co. No. 1, Camp Rose, 5.

District 14, Pilot, Powell county; Henry Clay Oil Co. No. 6, Ludisa Sparks, 30; Henry Clay Oil Co. No. 7, Ludisa Sparks, 25.

Petroleum Exploration Co. No. 17, Miller, Prewitt & Golf, 25; No. 18, 150; No. 19, 150.

District 15, Pilot, Powell county, Ky.; Kentucky Petroleum Product Co. No. 10, David Patrick, dry; No. 25, W. M. Adams, 50 to 50.

District 16, Zachariah, Lee county, Ky.; P. J. White No. 4, Wm. Hobbs, 15.

TEST CASE FOR COURT AND JURY.

WOOSTER, OHIO.—A test case of unusual importance in every county in Ohio where development of oil or gas territory is in progress went on trial in Common Pleas Court here February 25 before Judge L. R. Critchfield and a jury.

The case is that of Mary Shilling, owner of a farm in Congress township, against the Ohio Fuel Supply Company for damages amounting to \$3,000, claimed because, the plaintiff alleges, the company failed to carry out an implied contract in a lease, and did not drill offset wells.

Three other suits in which the same question has been raised are already on file in court here, and similar actions have been brought in other counties. One suit here is for \$50,000. It was filed this week by Earl Aylesworth, Clinton township farmer, against the East Ohio Gas Company and A. E. Vrooman, who originally took the lease.

Mrs. Shilling alleges that the Ohio Fuel Supply Company drilled one well at the extreme west part of her farm and secured a small producing well.

SAYS HER LAND WAS DRAINED.

She asserts that a well was drilled just across the line on a farm to the north, two to the east and two to the south, and that because the company failed to drill offset wells for each of these the gas under her land found its way through the crevices in the gas-producing strata and came to the surface through wells on adjoining farms, thus depriving her of royalties which she would have received from producing wells had they been on her land.

The company's answer sets forth that it was in quest of gas for its use, and that had conditions seemed favorable her land would have been developed as a matter of good business. The answer also states that there was no agreement to drill wells.

Experts will be called to testify concerning how far gas will travel underground to find an aperture which leads to the surface. Experienced drillers declare it will go considerable distances, especially where the rock pressure is high, and some declare that a 160-acre farm would be drained of all gas beneath it if wells were drilled on all adjoining farms.

The plaintiffs in this case scored first blood some weeks ago when the court sustained the right of Mrs. Shilling to bring the action. The gas company had filed a demurrer to the petition, alleging there was no ground for action.

TANGLED PROPOSITION.

In five years of gas development in Wayne county the offset well proposition has been more tangled than any other phase of the contracts on leases made to producing gas companies.

Farmers who leased their land when operations were begun here invariably received from 50 cents to \$1 per acre per year in lease money, with a promise of \$200 per year for each gas well drilled and one-eighth of the oil from any well drilled.

Those who held out were able to exact bonuses when their land was found to be in the direct line of development, and this has been especially true during the past year, because of war demands for oil and the extreme scarcity of gas.

Territory that in the past has been deemed too risky to test will be drilled full of holes during the coming summer, according to present indications. A greater part of the acreage in the northeast part of the county is now under lease and a strike in any part of it will cause a scramble for the unleased land.

In the greater portion of these leases the matter of when the lessee is obliged to develop the land is not clearly defined.

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EASTERN FIELDS

PITTSBURGH.—Operations in the Southeastern Ohio fields are getting back to normal. For more than two months the shallow sand districts completed but few wells. The deep sand territory showed more activity than any other part of the Eastern fields during the cold weather. Recent reports from various sections show considerable new work starting. All indications favor an active drilling campaign in the deep sand territory during the year. While the market was low, there was no incentive for pushing development work.

In the Block Run district, Licking township, Muskingum county, the Ohio Cities Gas Company has drilled No. 24 on the Samuel Frazier farm into the Clinton sand and showing for a fair producer. The same company has started No. 26 on the same farm. No. 20 is drilling. In the shallow territory in the Corning district, Monroe township, Perry county, Kellar, Marshall & Co. are drilling a second test on the John Denman farm. In the same district Charles and Elmer Weaver are drilling No. 11 on the N. Corning farm.

Monroe County Test Is Dry.—In the Rhinards Mills district, Bethel township, Monroe county, the Pennsylvania & Kentucky Oil & Gas Company has drilled its test on the Harrison Beardsmore farm through the Big Injun sand and dry. This location is three-fourths of a mile east of the Carter Oil Company's test on the A. Workman farm. In the northwest quarter of section 29, Archer township, Harrison county, Collins & Wisner have completed No. 3 on the Frank Heavlin farm. It showed very little oil when drilled through the Berea grit. Since then it is estimated to be good for five barrels a day.

Hope Has a Good Well.—On Dent's run, Mannington district, Marion county, the Hope Natural Gas Company's No. 3 on the Ella Kinsey farm is a good producer. The well was drilled into the sand a few days ago, and when it began to flow was shut in to provide additional tankage. It was opened for three hours last Monday and during that period flowed 100 barrels. It is showing for the best producer found in that district since midsummer of last year.

On the north fork of Hughes river, Clay district, Ritchie county, the Philadelphia Company has now drilled its No. 6 on the E. R. Taylor farm through the Squaw sand. Nothing was found in the lower formation. It is a fair gasser in the Big Injun sand. On the same stream and in the same district, the Houma Natural Gas Company has a fair gasser in the Big Injun sand on the J. W. Wilson farm. On Dunkard creek, Battelle district, Monongalia county, the Hope Natural Gas Company's test on the David Haight farm is a gasser in the Gordon sand.

West Virginia Test Wells.—On Tom's run, Spencer district, Roane county, Godfrey L. Cabot, after a protracted fishing job at a depth of 1,866 feet, on the G. G. Deaton farm, has skidded the rig and started a second hole. On Fishing creek, Green district, Wetzel county, Morris & McKnight have rig timbers at a location on the Caleb S. Headley farm. On Little creek, in the same district, Benedum & Trees are building a rig for a test on the Mary C. Snodgrass farm. On the north fork of Hughes river, Clay district, Ritchie county, the Imperial Oil and Gas Products Company has started to drill No. 3 on the A. W. Keith farm.

On Sancho creek, Centerville district, Tyler county, the Wiser Oil Company is rigging up a test on the E. C. Pierpont farm. On Days run, Clay district, Monongalia county, the Philadelphia Company is building a rig on the J. H. Headley farm. In the same district, the same company's test on the William Keck farm is a gasser in the Bayard sand. The same company's test on the W. G. Neptune farm is a gasser in the fifth sand. On Dunkard creek, Clay district, the Pentress Gas Company is building a rig for a test on the Perry Johnson farm.

D. S. W.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The snow-high waters and bad condition of the weather brought about but a little finished work in the mountains of West Virginia.

In Doddridge county, Central district, the Imperial Oil and Gas Products Company's well on the Duckworth tract pumped 30 barrels. The Philadelphia Company's No. 2, Henry tract, and the Eastern Petroleum Company's No. 1, Dotson tract, pumped 10 barrels each.

In Roane county, Spencer district, the South Penn Oil Company's No. 7, Craig tract, pumped five barrels. In the Walton district the Carter Oil Company's well on the Young tract pumped 12 barrels, and the Jarvis Oil Company's No. 4, Lowe tract, pumped ten barrels.

In Gilmer county, Troy district, the South Penn Oil Company's No. 4, Brannen tract, produced 4,000,000 cubic feet of gas. In the Center district the Carnegie Gas Company's No. 1, Shaw tract, produced 1,000,000 feet of gas, and the Hope Gas Company's No. 1, Boggs tract, produced 3,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

In Marion county, Mannington district, Monroe & Alford's well on the Thomas tract pumped eight barrels, and the Anchor Oil Company's No. 9, Batty tract, pumped five barrels.

In Ritchie county, Clay district, the Hope Gas Company's well on the Wilson tract produced 2,000,000 cubic feet of gas, and the Philadelphia Company's No. 6, Taylor heirs tract, produced 1,000,000 cubic feet.

In Kanawha county, Cabin Creek district, the Little Oil Company's test on the Rightaway tract pumped 50 barrels.

In Wetzel county, Grant district, the South Penn Oil Company's No. 2, Higgins tract, pumped 15 barrels.

In Lincoln county, Duval district, the South Penn Oil Company's No. 13, Griffith tract, pumped five barrels.

In Calhoun county, Sherman district, the Hope Gas Company's No. 4, Brake tract, pumped five barrels.

In Lewis county, Freeman's Creek district, the Reserve Gas Company's well on the Flesher tract produced 3,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

In Marshall county, Liberty district, the Manufacturers' Light and Heat Company's test on the Rhine tract produced 2,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

SOUTHEASTERN OHIO.

The bulk of the work in the Southeastern-Central Ohio field was confined to the deep sand territory, where very fair results were obtained by the drill during the week as far as the finding of gas was concerned, but there is a scarcity of oil in the 38 wells finished for the week in the field, and indicates that the trade will be compelled to look to other fields for the oil supply.

In Wayne county, Wooster district, the East Ohio Gas Company's No. 2, Lake tract, produced 3,500,000 cubic feet, and No. 1, Williamson tract, produced about 500,000 cubic feet. Chas. Curry & Co. drilled a dry hole on the Craven tract. The Ohio Fuel Supply Company's No. 1, Tally tract, produced 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas, and No. 1, Smith tract, was dry for this company. The Logan Gas Company's well on the Heim-Irwin tract produced 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas, and No. 1, McDaniel tract 500,000 cubic feet.

In Medina county, Leitchfield district, the Logan Gas Company drilled a

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35-barrel oil pumper in a test on the Chapin tract. The Ohio Fuel Supply Company drilled a light gas well on the Strong tract. The Medina Gas and Fuel Company's No. 1 Lance tract, No. 1 Carrigan tract, No. 1 Bentel tract, No. 1 Kennedy tract and No. 1 Fordham tract produced 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas each.

In Vinton county the Preston Oil Company's No. 10 Pence tract pumped three barrels of oil. The Ohio Fuel Supply Company's well on the Wyatt tract was a very small gas well. No. 2 of this company, on the Thatcher tract, produced 4,500,000 cubic feet of gas, and No. 1 Stock tract 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

In Washington county the Hill Top Oil Company's No. 1 Hutchinson tract pumped ten barrels. J. F. Ward & Co.'s No. 5 Stephens tract pumped three barrels. J. H. Kiggins & Co.'s No. 3, Farnsworth heirs tract, and Corder & Edvard's No. 1, Dennis tract, were dry holes.

In Hocking county the Hocking Oil Company's No. 7, Statzer tract, pumped ten barrels. The Ohio Fuel Supply Company's well on the Thompson tract produced 1,500,000 cubic feet of gas, and the Carter Oil Company's well on the Renschild tract was dry.

In Humphries' No. 10, Stokes tract, pumped two barrels each.

In Cuyahoga county, Cleveland district, the Preston Oil Company's well on the Huntz tract produced 3,000,000 cubic feet of gas, and the Logan Gas Company's well on the Mahne tract produced 500,000 cubic feet of gas.

In Muskingum county, Licking district, the Ohio Cities Gas Company's No. 11, Madden tract, pumped ten barrels.

In Perry county the Logan Gas Company's well on the Fink tract produced 3,000,000 cubic feet of gas. In Richland county the Richland Land and Development Company's well on the Wigton tract produced 1,000,000 feet of gas. In Coshocton county the Logan Gas Company's No. 2, Reese tract, produced 500,000 cubic feet of gas.

In Ashland county the Ohio Fuel Supply Company's well on the Haire tract was dry. In Licking county the Planet Oil Company drilled one of the same kind on the Humphries tract, and in Lorain county the East Ohio Gas Company got a dry one on the Poats tract.

NORTHWESTERN OHIO.

In the Northwestern Ohio field but two wells were finished. In Wood county the Ohio Oil Company's No. 15, Bedell tract, pumped five barrels, and in Ottawa county W. A. and V. G. Miller's No. 1, Shessler tract, pumped 35 barrels.

INDIANA.

In the Indiana field only one well was finished, which was the M. Murphy Estate's No. 8 on the Rumble tract, with a production of 70 barrels, and located in the Oakland City field, in Pike county, in the west side of the State.

ILLINOIS.

The Illinois field is in a most deplorable state for development work; as very few roads are macadamized in the oil section, and it is impossible to move material.

In Wabash county Sparks & Co. drilled a dry hole on the Couch tract, in the Friendsville section. In Edgar county, in the Embarrass district, the Pioneer Oil Company's No. 12, Hanley tract, pumped five barrels.

WEEK'S WORK.

The wells for the week in the high-grade fields were distributed by fields as follows:

	Comp.	Prod.	Gas.	Dry.
Pennsylvania	3	100	2	—
West Virginia	20	177	7	—
Southeastern Ohio	38	75	22	8
Northwestern Ohio	2	50	—	—
Indiana	1	70	—	—
Illinois	2	5	—	1
Kentucky	22	525	—	3
Totals	88	1,002	31	12
Previous week	85	1,001	14	10
Difference	3	959	17	2

DISTRIBUTION.

The above wells were distributed by districts and counties in each field as follows:

Pennsylvania—Allegheny, 1 well, 100 barrels; Washington and Greene, 1 gas well each.

West Virginia—Doddridge, 3 wells, 50 barrels; Roane, 3 wells, 28 barrels; Gilmer, 3 gas wells; Marion, 2 wells, 13 barrels; Ritchie, 2 gas wells; Kanawha, 1 well, 60 barrels; Wetzel, 1 well, 15 barrels; Lincoln, 1 well, 5 barrels; Calhoun, 1 well, 5 barrels; Peasants, 1 well, 2 barrels; Lewis and Marshall, 1 gas well each.

Southwestern Ohio—Wayne, 9 wells, 2 dry, 7 gas; Medina, 7 wells, 6 gas, 35 barrels; Vinton, 4 wells, 2 dry, 13 barrels; Hocking, 3 wells, 1 dry, 1 gas, 10 barrels; Morgan, 2 wells, 4 barrels; Cuyahoga, 2 gas wells; Muskingum, 1 well, 10 barrels; Perry, Richland, Coshocton, 1 gas well each, and Ashland, Licking and Lorain, 1 dry hole each.

Northwestern Ohio—Wood, 1 well, 5 barrels, and Ottawa, 1 well and 45 barrels.

Indiana—Oakland City, 1 well and 70 barrels.

Illinois—Edgar, 1 well, 5 barrels, and Wabash, 1 dry hole.

Kentucky—Powell, 7 wells, 240 barrels; Lee, 4 wells, 100 barrels; Estill, 4 wells, 1 dry, 30 barrels; Morgan, 3 wells, 1 dry, 20 barrels; Barren, 1 wells, 25 barrels; Rockcastle, 1 well, 10 barrels, and Wolfe, 1 dry hole.

WYOMING HUSTLING WORK.

With the drilling of at least sixteen producing oil wells during the first six weeks of the year, the annual oil production from Wyoming fields has been increased approximately 647,875 barrels over the production of last year, despite the fact that the six weeks' period is supposed to represent virtual inactivity because of the winter season.

The sixteen new producers drilled in during the first six weeks of 1918 bring the number of wells finished successfully since October 1 to 70, with an estimated annual output of 10,005,020 barrels, which is 501,875 barrels more than the total refinery run for Wyoming for 1917.

In addition to the oil producers, a sensational 10,000,000 cubic foot gas well also was unearthed by the Curtis-Ohio Oil Company drillers on the Poison Spider Dome, 22 miles southwest of Casper, at a depth of 1,275 feet.

While a majority of wells were secured in the Big Muddy field, satisfactory results were secured in the Spring Valley field, 10 miles east of Kemmerer; the Warm Springs field, near Thermopolis; the West Salk Creek field, the Lusk field, Converse-Niobara field and the Hidden Dome field. Development work in the Hidden Dome field was watched with greater interest than in any other Wyoming field or locality. This field is near Worland, where a large number of Wildcat companies have been drilling and where no little litigation has ensued over possession of leases. The drilling in of a well in this field by the Ohio Oil Company has proven the Dome and has incidentally started stocks skyrocketing.

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PERSONALS

A. L. Romaine of the Rice Oil Company, was a recent visitor.
 * * * * *
 George Harmon had several live visitors from Mobile this week.
 * * * * *
 T. C. Fuller, of this city, made a trip to Columbus and Chicago.
 * * * * *
 Dean Eggart, of the National Supply Company, was in town Thursday.
 * * * * *
 Bill Benson is back after a trip to Pittsburgh, Buffalo and Cleveland.
 * * * * *
 Many leases have changed hands at fancy prices during the past week.
 * * * * *
 J. C. Heydrick, who was quite ill for a few days, is now able to be about.
 * * * * *
 Bowling Green paper copied Dick Leach's Livery Bill out of THE OIL WORLD.
 * * * * *
 W. G. Roher, of the Dresser Oil Company, has returned from Huntington, W. Va.
 * * * * *
 Carl K. Dresser, who is in Oklahoma looking after his interests, will return Tuesday.
 * * * * *
 James Hillis and J. Fred Miles are very busy with their numerous drilling operations.
 * * * * *
 Ben Tracey, Lexington's live real estate man, accompanied the oil men to Frankfort Thursday.
 * * * * *
 Bill Fitch has brought his family here to drive away the lonesomeness. Bill is a great homebody.
 * * * * *
 Chet McCombs, president of the McCombs Oil Company, Louisville, was in town Tuesday.
 * * * * *
 Ion Carroll, of Barbourville, was a visitor Thursday, and joined the oil men on a trip to Frankfort.
 * * * * *
 C. E. Gettman arrived in town Wednesday after a trip to West Virginia, where he has large interests.
 * * * * *
 H. L. Skelley made his usual visit to this city on Tuesday and left for the fields Wednesday morning.
 * * * * *
 Dr. Stewart, who went to Kansas City to look after his Kansas property, arrived in the city Wednesday.
 * * * * *
 John Bahan, of the Cumberland Producing and Refining Company, is now making Lexington his headquarters.
 * * * * *
 W. V. Thraves has returned from Washington and is ready to drill on his recent acquired acreage on Ross creek.
 * * * * *
 W. G. Hageman, manager of the Agnew Milliken Torpedo Company, of Winchester, spent Sunday in Lexington.
 * * * * *
 John Skain, manager of the Phoenix Hotel, who has been in New York and the East, returned to town Thursday.
 * * * * *
 Lawrence V. Mullen, who has cleaned up several hundred thousands in Kentucky oil fields, was in town Wednesday.
 * * * * *
 E. M. Nowell, who has been out in the Lee county field for the past ten days, made a short visit to this city Thursday.
 * * * * *
 Mr. R. V. Woods and Mr. Walter, of the Wyoming-Kentucky Oil Company, joined the Round Table outfit Saturday.
 * * * * *
 Joseph H. Mills, of Morgantown, W. Va., is now in charge of the office of the Kentucky Oil Exchange in the Phoenix Hotel.
 * * * * *
 Mr. Spencer, of the Atlantic Refining Company, Winchester, was in town Thursday and accompanied the oil men to Frankfort.
 * * * * *
 Mr. Graumon, of Casper, Wyo., has been in Kentucky for the past ten days looking over the field with the intention of investing.
 * * * * *
 Slagle Bros., of the Cumberland Petroleum Company, arrived in town the first of the week and have been in the fields drilling in some good wells.
 * * * * *
 Dick Chiles was so excited when his big well came in on Big Sinking Creek that he got his telegram to the Kentucky Oil Exchange all mixed up.
 * * * * *
 Mr. R. Harris, of Ravenna, was a visitor Thursday. He tells us he has secured some valuable acreage in Lee county and is forming the Eveleth Oil Company.
 * * * * *
 Fielding H. Yoast, better known as "Hurry Up" Yoast, millionaire "mag-nate" and football coach of Winchester, Ky., and Nashville, Tenn., was a visitor Tuesday.
 * * * * *
 George V. Larson, 74 Broadway, New York, has purchased a good-size acreage in Knox county for the Red River Oil Company, and intends to begin drilling operations.
 * * * * *
 Rex Carpenter lost himself on the street car on the way to Frankfort Thursday. Rex is something like the old woman who is hunting for her glasses when they are on her nose.
 * * * * *
 Dick Veitch is spending most of his time in Beattyville getting ready to drill on a 450-acre lease held by Courson Decamey and himself. This was a fortunate purchase, as it costs them something like \$800 a year, and is now probably worth \$80,000.
 * * * * *
 Ben W. Steele, the only man who ever bought a lot and got an oil well on it, was in town Thursday. He has purchased considerable acreage in Lee county, where he intends to drill immediately, and if he strikes oil on this, as he believes he will, he will make some real money.

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OIL MEN VISIT FRANKFORT.

A delegation of oil men, members of the Kentucky Oil Men's Association, left the Phoenix Hotel at 9:30 Thursday morning on a special car for Frankfort to pay their respects to Governor Stanley and the Lieutenant Governor. The party included the following persons: F. B. Tomb, J. L. Tucker, J. H. Dugan, D. B. Crane, J. F. Watson, Fred Miles, D. G. Foster, James Hillis, T. B. Cromwell, A. J. Redway, James Tocher, B. J. Tracey, C. E. Getman, Ion Carroll, Dean Eggart, J. C. Main, A. A. Flinn, Dr. E. Northcott, John M. Mildren, James C. Heydrick, J. B. Kelley, W. C. Fuller and C. H. Dailey.
 On the way over Sam Bell and Rex Carpenter were writing names of those present, and in checking up the list they found they were two shy. Rex proceeded to state he would find out where the Slippery Dicks were. The answer was that he was hunting for himself and Sam Bell. On the way over President Tomb, Jim Hillis and Mr. Torcher gave a talk pertaining to Kentucky oil industry and its development. The party arrived at Frankfort at 11:45 a. m. and had lunch at the Frankfort Hotel, where a table was set for the entire delegation. At this luncheon it was suggested that a Producers' Club be organized. Mr. Ion Carroll, of Barbourville, gave a Rip Van Winkle toast and Mr. Spencer told a very good story. A 3 o'clock the delegation was received by the Governor and Mr. Sam Bell made a presentation speech, thanking the Governor and the Legislature for their interest in the oil industry. The Governor made a very pretty reply, telling the story of how iron and steel, together with oil, would win the war, and that the oil men were doing their bit by producing more oil for the country's need. From the Governor's room the delegation went to call upon the Lieutenant Governor, where President Tomb and Mr. James Hillis gave a nice little talk regarding the Kentucky oil fields, and were replied to by the Lieutenant Governor in a most appropriate manner. At 4:20 p. m. the party left in the special car for Lexington and made fast time to that city.
 The oil men appreciate the courtesy shown them by the street railway by sending Mr. Dailey, the manager, along to look after the party.
 All together, it was an enjoyable trip, and things were accomplished that the oil men wished to accomplish without any noise or demonstration, and in the belief that the enemy of quick development of the oil industry lies slumbering peacefully in the House of Representatives.

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